Page 2 of 20

Amendment and Response Serial No.: 10/034,993

Confirmation No.: 1113
Filed: 28 December 2001

For: MODULAR SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR USING SAMPLE PROCESSING DEVICES

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 24, with the following amended paragraph.

FIG. 4A is a schematic depiction of a portion of an alternative system according to the principles of the present invention. In some instances, it may be difficult to provide sufficient electrical power to operate devices mounted on the base plates through a rotating connection apparatus such as those described above. Base plate 10' may include an electrically powered device 12' operably connected to a photovoltaic cell 11', with electrical power provided to the electrically powered device 12' from the photovoltaic cell 11'. An alternative manner in which electrical power may be supplied relies on the rotation of the base plate 10'. A magnetic field may be provided in the system through which the base plate 10' rotates.